

Pursuant to these Understandings, India has notified the revised combined tariff bindings to WTO. On the other hand, US has extended GSP concession on 9 Indian handloom fabrics. The US and EU have also lifted their reservations of India's tariff binding notification. Besides, EU has also released 8000 tonnes of exceptional flexibilities and has also agreed to release 8000 tonnes of exceptional flexibilities during the remaining year till 2004, that is, till the end of textile quota regime.

The grant of GSP concession by US and release of exceptional flexibilities by EU would have a beneficial effects on exports to these markets. However, on domestic industry will have to improve its efficiency and productivity to meet the emerging global competition.

Spun silk mills in Karnataka

4387. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that all spun silk mills in Karnataka are facing difficulties because of non-availability of silk waste;

(b) whether Government propose to ban export of silk waste so as to help the local industry of the State; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) This Ministry have received representations from Spun Silk Mills stating that the availability of silk waste is coming down and that its exports should be curtailed/banned. On the other hand, silk reelers and exporters have also represented that exports of silk waste should not be curtailed or banned. A meeting of the reelers, exporters and Spun Silk Mills owners has been held at the highest level in the Ministry to hear the difficulties and view points of the both sides. It has been agreed at this meeting that there is a need to take a holistic view and to balance the interest of all sectors namely farmers and reelers, Spun Silk Mills and exporters. Government has been monitoring the situation carefully. In the current year action has been taken to reduce the customs duty on silk waste also from 35% to 15% to

increase availability of silk waste in the domestic market, and in the current EXIM Policy the imports of silk waste have been placed under Open General Licence (OGL).

Export target fixed by textile industry

@4388. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact a target had been fixed by the textile industry for exports during the year 2002-2001;

(b) if so, the target so fixed in terms of amount in context of cotton, cotton thread, clothes and garments; and

(c) whether the target fixed for exports would be achieved during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUAMR): (a) to (c) The target fixed by the Government for the export of textile (including cotton, cotton thread, clothes and garments) during the year 2000-2001 and the achievements during the period April-February, 2000-2001, are given below:

(In US Million Dollar)

S. No.	Items	Target (2000-2001)	Achievement (Apr. 2000-Feb. 2001)
1	2	3	4
1.	Readymade Garments	6500	4896.3
2.	Cotton Textiles (a+b+c)	4750	2784.6
	(a) Cotton Fabrics & Madeups (MM/PL)	2400	1202.5
	(b) Cotton Fabrics & Madeups (HL)#	650	292.0

@ Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.